

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL  
September 24, 2007

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Clouette, Duffy, Hawkins, Koehn, Paterson, Paulhus, Schaefer  
Absent: Haddad

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2007 meeting. Motion passed with Duffy, Koehn and Schaefer abstaining.

Ms. Koehn requested the record reflect that at the August 27<sup>th</sup> special meeting of the Town Council the complete statement regarding the Mansfield Community Center should read: Ms. Koehn requested information on how each town supports capital improvement items for the departments and also suggested activity based accounting as a method of presenting financial information. By consensus the statement was accepted.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Paterson requested a moment of silence in honor of and respect for our troops around the world.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

V. PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

1. Gurleyville Bridge Railing Upgrade

Lon Hultgren, Public Works Director, briefly outlined the project and commented that the railing design for the bridge on Gurleyville Road is in the concept stage and there will be ample time for additional comments as the process continues.

Ben Sachs, Gurleyville Road, a frequent vehicle and pedestrian traveler across the bridge, is looking forward to the improvements. However, he is concerned that the 120' guardrail seems excessive and suggested since there is no pedestrian walkway across the bridge that after construction the bridge remains one-way to allow for walkers.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

2. Community/Campus Relations

Mayor Paterson and Matt Hart, Town Manager, recently met with the University Student Government President and agreed that Mr. Hart will meet with USG quarterly to update them on Town concerns and activities and the President of USG will meet with the Council to do the same. The Manager reported that the changes at Carriage House do seem to be making a difference.

Council members discussed the consequences of excessive drinking for the students, the local health facilities, and law enforcement.

### 3. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

The Town Manager reported that the Advisory Committee has met to discuss the Master Plan Implementation Plan. He will advise members regarding the next meeting date in December.

### 4. Issues Regarding The UConn Landfill

Rob Miller, Director of Eastern Highlands Health District, has reviewed the reports and his comments are included in the packet.

### 5. UConn Stadium Road Detention Basin

Based on staff review of the university's findings regarding the current monitoring of the Stadium Road detention basin the recommendation to suspend the monitoring program at this time was acceptable to Council members. The monitoring will resume once the Institutional Stormwater Discharge Permit is issued.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

### 6. Cogeneration Facility for Mansfield Community Center

William Hammond, Director of Maintenance, described the proposed cogeneration facility for the Mansfield Community Center. He expects savings of about \$65,933 per year after the system is installed. After the negotiations are underway Mr. Hammond and Mr. Smith will return to the Council for final approval.

Ms. Koehn requested information on the effect of this system on the Town's carbon footprint.

### 7. Explanatory Text of the Ballot Questions for the Proposed Town Charter

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the following motion:

Resolved, pursuant to Connecticut General Statute § 9-369b, the Mansfield Town Council authorizes the preparation and printing of an explanatory text of the ballot questions regarding the proposed charter revisions. Such text shall be prepared by the Town Clerk, subject to the approval of the Town Attorney, and shall specify the intent and purpose of each question.

Motion passed unanimously.

The Town Clerk will incorporate a couple of minor changes to the text suggested by Mr. Schaefer, as well as using a bullet format as suggested by Ms. Koehn.

#### 8. Goodwin School Playscape

The Town Manager has discussed the issue of the playscape with the Superintendent of Schools, the Assistant Superintendent of Schools and the Principal. Mr. Hammond will send a copy of the monthly inspection report that his staff now prepares for the Superintendent also to the Town Manager.

Mr. Hart suggested that the PTO approach the Board of Education with a proposal and the Board will, if necessary, approach the Town Council.

#### 9. Financial Statements Dated June 30, 2007

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Blair seconded, effective September 24, 2007, to accept the Financial Statements dated June 30, 2007.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### 10. An Ordinance Providing a Tax Exemption for Farm Buildings

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms Blair seconded, effective September 24, 2007, to refer for review and comment the proposed Ordinance Providing a Property Tax Exemption for Farm Buildings to the Agriculture and Open Space Preservation Committees, and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Motion passed unanimously.

### VIII. QUARTERLY REPORTS Continued until next meeting

### IX. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

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### X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

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Mr. Clouette reported that the Committee on Committees participation at the Know Your Town Fair and the Festival on the Green was very successful. He thanked the members who were able to participate.

The Committee on Committees recommended the following appointments:

Richard Pellegrine to the Housing Code Board of Appeals  
Susan Harrington and David Silsbee to the Parks Advisory Committee  
Becky Lehmann, Nancy Hovorka, Jane Goldman, Donna McLaughlin and Shamim Patwa to the Mansfield Advocates for Children

Nominations were passed unanimously.

Mr. Paulhus reported that the Personnel Committee has distributed the procedures

and the timeline for the Town Manager's review.

Mr. Paulhus also reported that the Strategic Planning Committee met and chose a name – Mansfield 2020 A Unified Vision. The Committee also identified residents who might be productive members of the 80-member group and sent letters to them. The dates for community participation have been identified, December 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> and January 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### XI. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Paterson reported that the Festival on the Green was warmly received and a great success. All aspects of the event went extremely well. The Mayor thanked all who participated. She is looking forward to next year.

#### XII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Attached

#### XIII. FUTURE AGENDAS

Mr. Schaefer noted that the Council will need to approve budget transfers already made at a future meeting.

The Town Manager reported that Ms. Koehn suggested the Council look at the tax exemption for solar homes and see if it can be enlarged to include other forms of clean energy. He also noted that Mr. Clouette's suggestion of an ad hoc committee on housing would be discussed at a future meeting.

#### XIV. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 11. Climate Change: Science, Policy and Strategies for Life in a Changing World
- 12. Daily Campus Articles re: Carriage House Apartments
- 13. J. Courtney re: Small Business Relief Passes by the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress
- 14. J. Cryan re: 2007-2008 Middle School of the Year
- 15. Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission Application Referral- Arthur's Pond
- 16. Mansfield Public School re: Enrollment
- 17. Mansfield Public Schools re: Four Schools Renovation Project Community Workshop
- 18. K. McNabb re: Mansfield Animal Shelter
- 19. National Conversation of Climate Action
- 20. G. Padick re: Affordable Housing Exemption List
- 21. C. Poulos re: 2007 Connecticut Teacher of the Year

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to move into Executive Session.  
Motion passed unanimously.

#### XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Open Space  
Included: Matthew Hart, Town Manager

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk